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(54) **RENDERABLE CONTENT PARTITIONING  
AND PORTABILITY**

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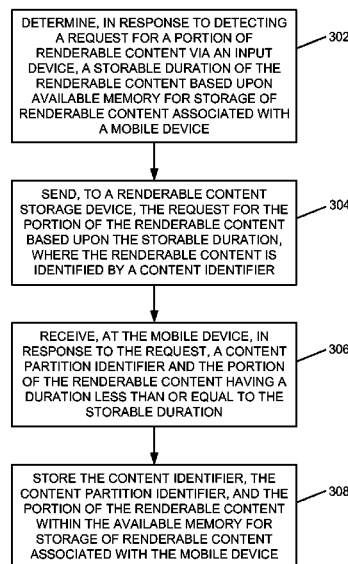
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(57) **ABSTRACT**

A storable duration of renderable content, based upon available memory for storage of renderable content associated with a mobile device, is determined in response to detecting a request for a portion of renderable content via an input device. The request for the portion of the renderable content based upon the storable duration is sent to a renderable content storage device, where the renderable content is identified by a content identifier. A content partition identifier and the portion of the renderable content having a duration less than or equal to the storable duration is received at the mobile device in response to the request. The content identifier, the content partition identifier, and the portion of the renderable content are stored within the available memory for storage of renderable content associated with the mobile device.

**8 Claims, 5 Drawing Sheets**

300



100

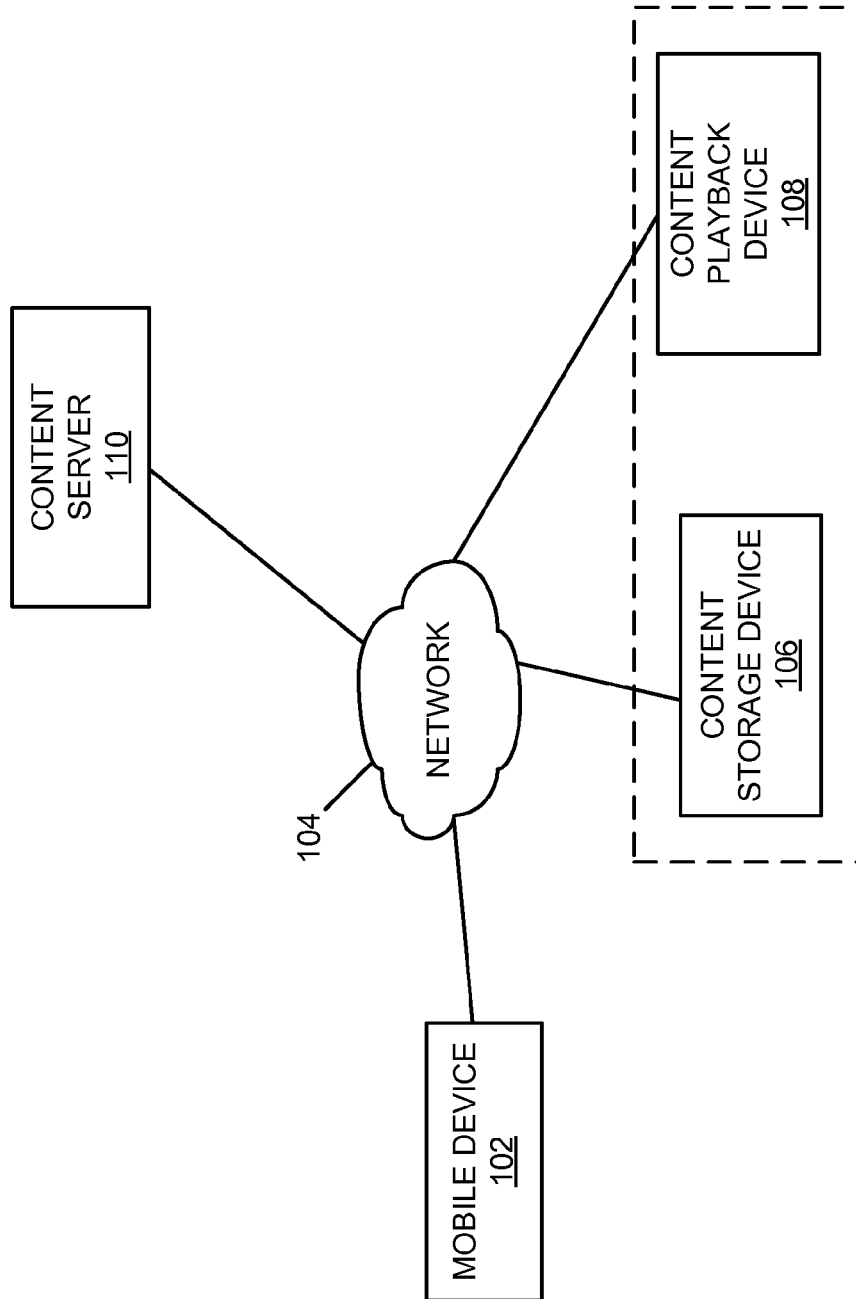


FIG. 1

102

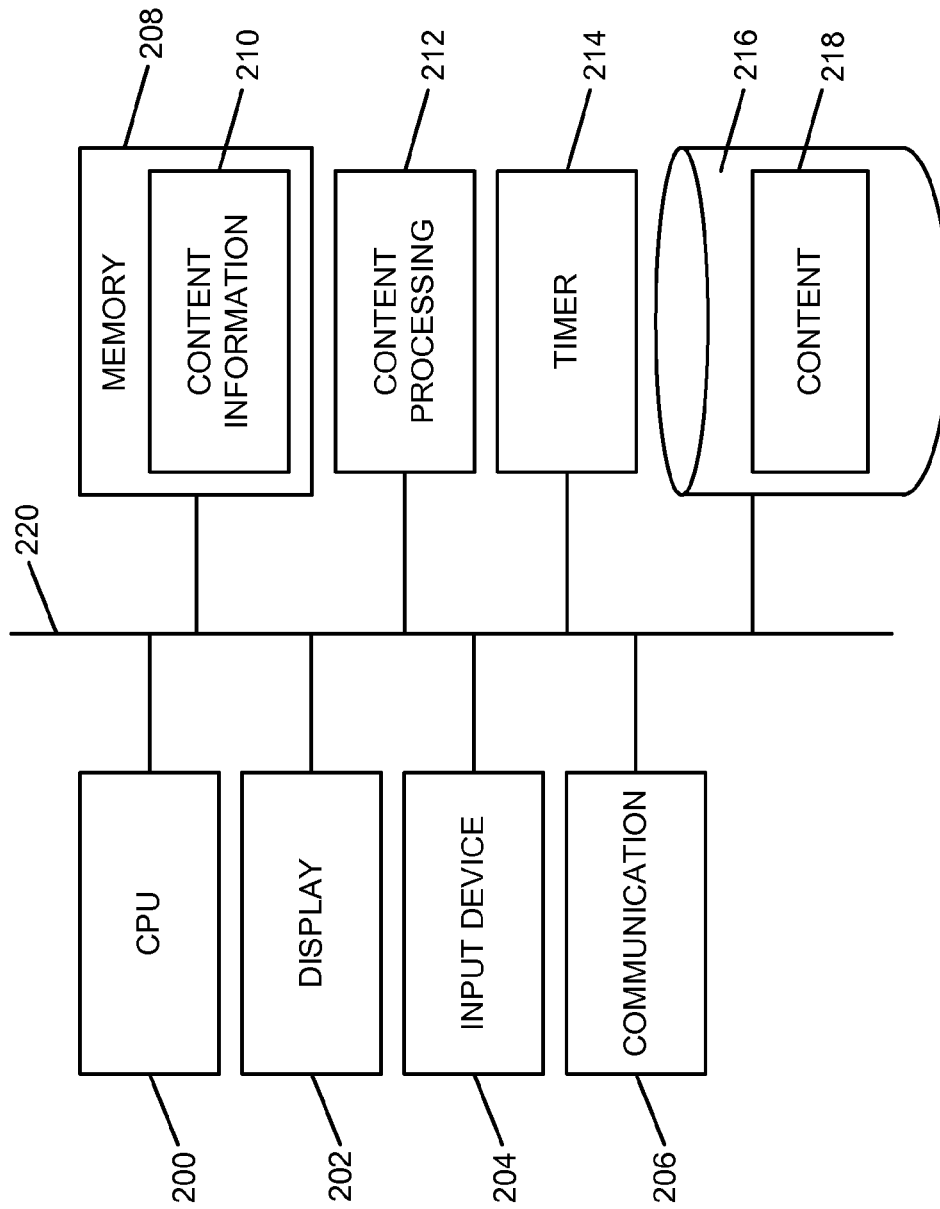


FIG. 2

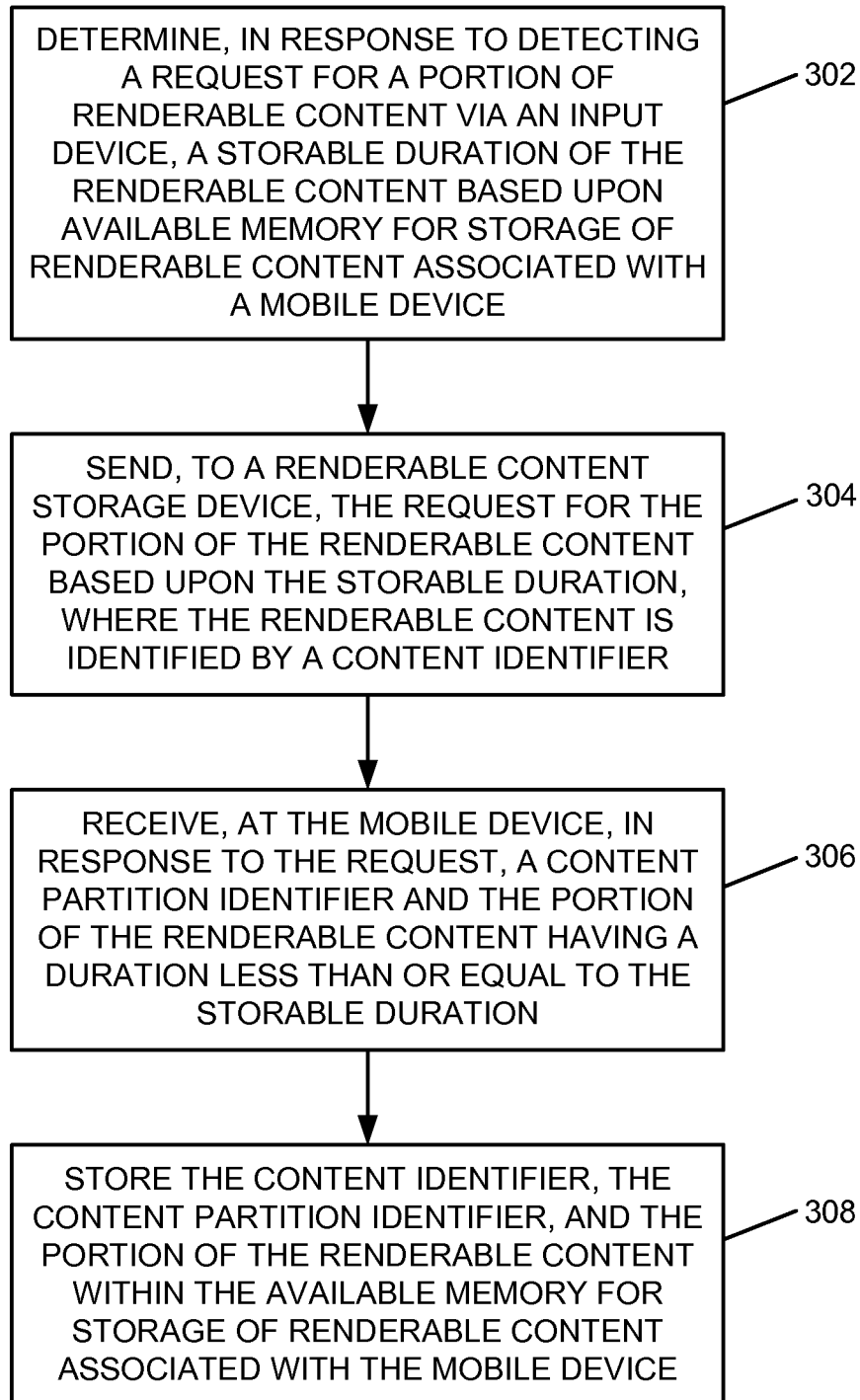
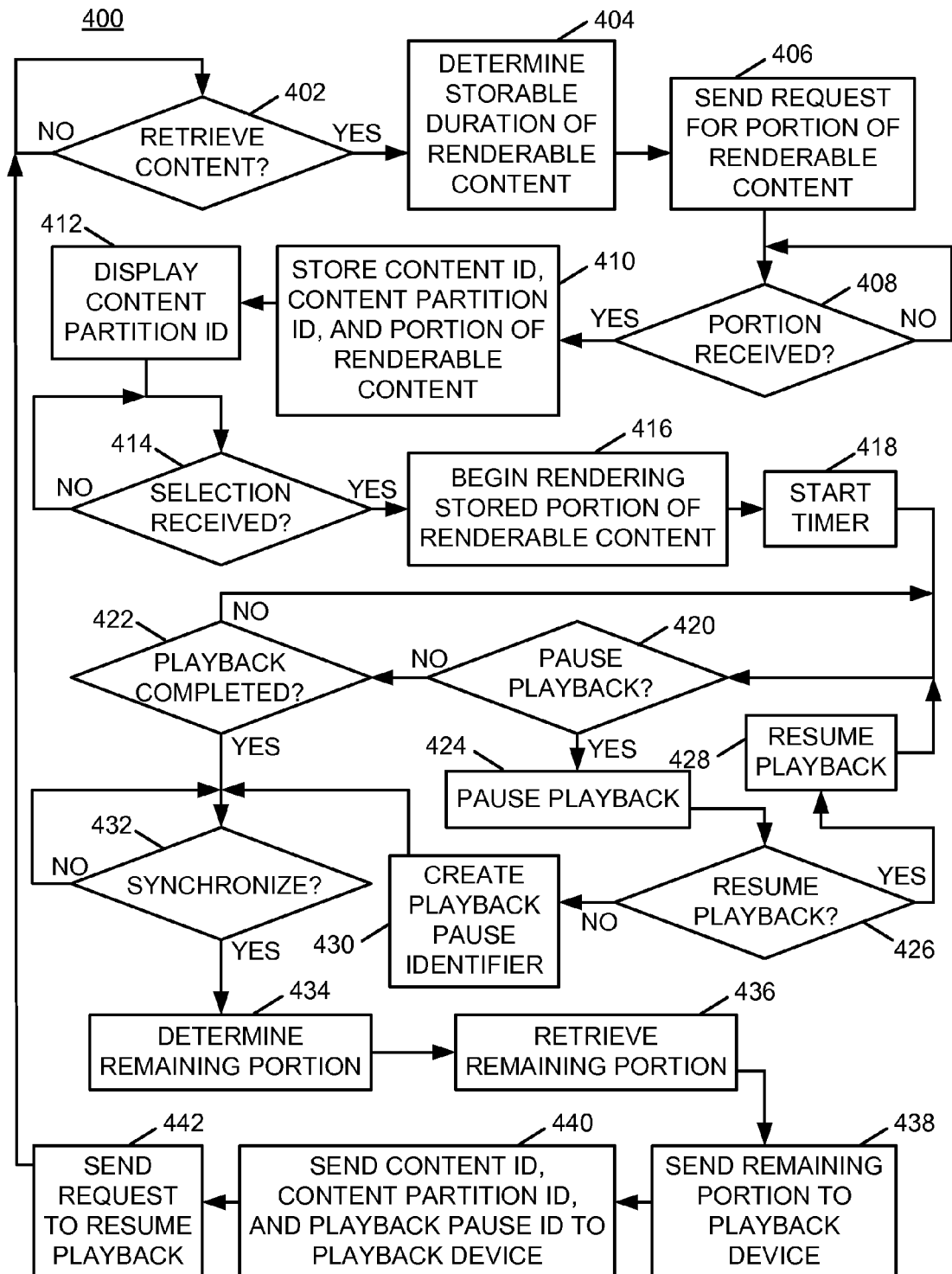
300

FIG. 3



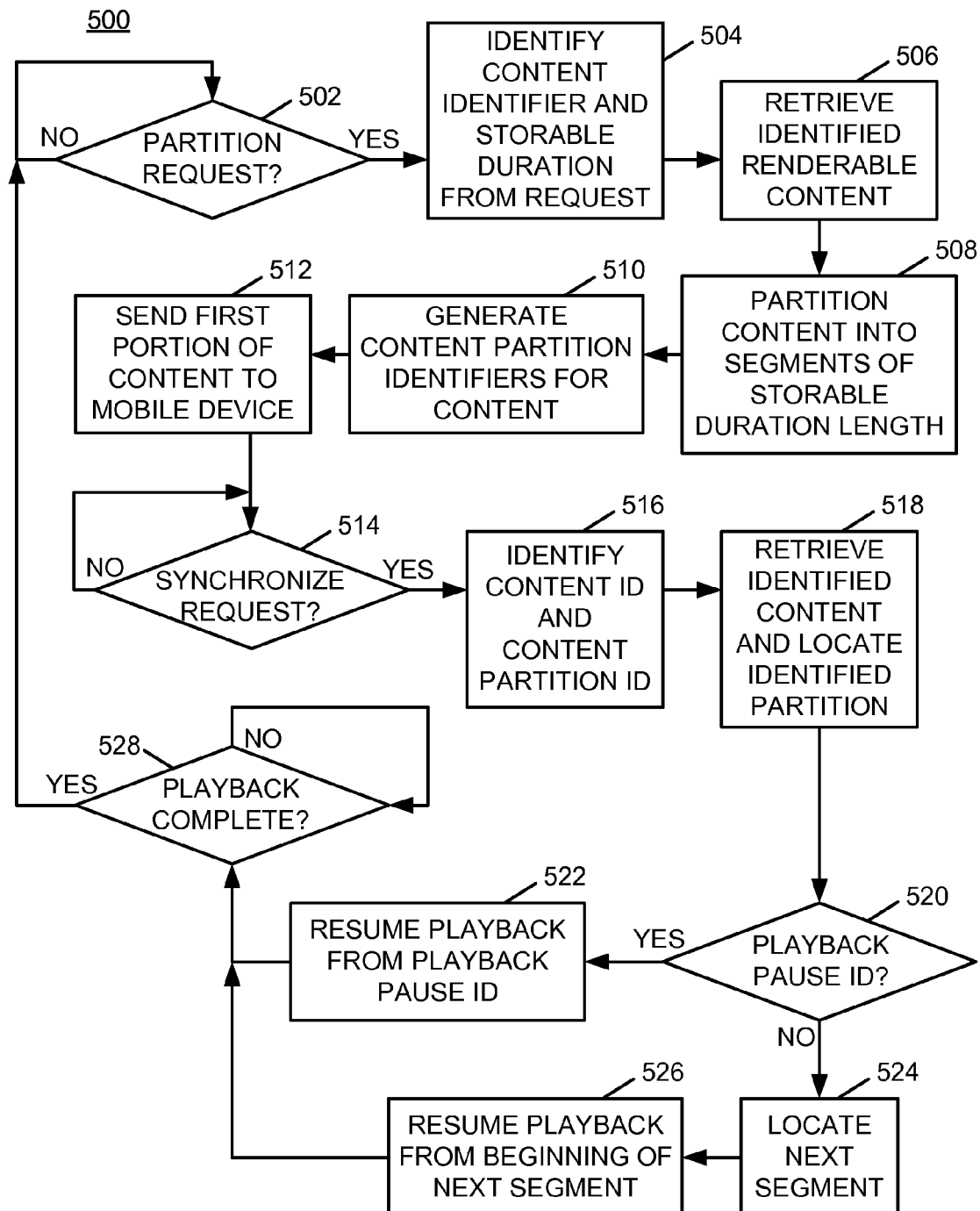


FIG. 5

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## RENDERABLE CONTENT PARTITIONING AND PORTABILITY

### BACKGROUND

The present invention relates to audio and video content playback. More particularly, the present invention relates to renderable content partitioning and portability.

Movies and other renderable content include audio and video components. The audio and video components are stored in content storage devices, such as server devices, computer hard drives, and portable media including digital video discs (DVDs). Renderable content may be downloaded from a server device and rendered on a television or other display device associated with a computing device. Downloaded renderable content may be stored on a storage device associated with a server, a digital video recorder (DVR), a computer hard drive, a DVD, or on other storage media. Additionally, renderable content stored on a DVD, a storage device associated with a DVR, a computer hard drive, or on other storage media may be rendered on the television or other display device associated with the computing device.

### SUMMARY

A method includes determining, in response to detecting a request for a portion of renderable content via an input device, a storable duration of the renderable content based upon available memory for storage of renderable content associated with a mobile device; sending, to a renderable content storage device, the request for the portion of the renderable content based upon the storable duration, where the renderable content is identified by a content identifier; receiving, at the mobile device, in response to the request, a content partition identifier and the portion of the renderable content having a duration less than or equal to the storable duration; and storing the content identifier, the content partition identifier, and the portion of the renderable content within the available memory for storage of renderable content associated with the mobile device.

A system includes an input device; a memory; and a processor programmed to: determine, in response to detecting a request for a portion of renderable content via the input device, a storable duration of the renderable content based upon available memory within the memory for storage of renderable content; send, to a renderable content storage device, the request for the portion of the renderable content based upon the storable duration, where the renderable content is identified by a content identifier; receive, in response to the request, a content partition identifier and the portion of the renderable content having a duration less than or equal to the storable duration; and storing the content identifier, the content partition identifier, and the portion of the renderable content within the available memory within the memory for storage of renderable content.

A computer program product includes a computer useable storage medium including a computer readable program code, wherein the computer readable program code when executed on a computer causes the computer to: determine, in response to detecting a request for a portion of renderable content via an input device, a storable duration of the renderable content based upon available memory for storage of renderable content; send, to a renderable content storage device, the request for the portion of the renderable content based upon the storable duration, where the renderable content is identified by a content identifier; receive, in response to the request, a content partition identifier and the portion of the

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renderable content having a duration less than or equal to the storable duration; and store the content identifier, the content partition identifier, and the portion of the renderable content within the available memory for storage of renderable content.

### BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE SEVERAL VIEWS OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. 1 is a block diagram of an example of an implementation of a system for renderable content partitioning and portability according to an embodiment of the present subject matter;

FIG. 2 is a block diagram of an example of an implementation of a mobile device that is capable of performing automated control of renderable content partitioning and portability for content storage devices according to an embodiment of the present subject matter;

FIG. 3 is a flow chart of an example of an implementation of a process for automated control of renderable content partitioning and portability according to an embodiment of the present subject matter;

FIG. 4 is a flow chart of an example of an implementation of a process for automated control of renderable content partitioning and portability based upon storage capabilities of a mobile device according to an embodiment of the present subject matter; and

FIG. 5 is a flow chart of an example of an implementation of a process for automated renderable content partitioning and portability at a content storage device according to an embodiment of the present subject matter.

### DETAILED DESCRIPTION

The examples set forth below represent the necessary information to enable those skilled in the art to practice the invention and illustrate the best mode of practicing the invention. Upon reading the following description in light of the accompanying drawing figures, those skilled in the art will understand the concepts of the invention and will recognize applications of these concepts not particularly addressed herein. It should be understood that these concepts and applications fall within the scope of the disclosure and the accompanying claims.

The subject matter described herein provides renderable content partitioning and portability. Renderable content includes content, such as movies, television shows, and other content including video and/or audio components (hereinafter "content"). A mobile device, such as a cellular telephone, controls a content storage device, such as a server, a digital video recorder (DVR), or other storage device, to cause the content storage device to partition content based upon available storage at the mobile device and to send a portion of the partitioned content to the mobile device. The mobile device may render the received portion of the content. In response to detecting an input request to synchronize with the same or another content storage device, the mobile device initiates a synchronization process with the respective content storage device and causes the device to begin rendering the content at a point at which the content was paused on the mobile device. As such, the mobile device provides control capabilities for content partitioning and portability.

To initiate processing, the mobile device receives a request via an input device to acquire a segment of identified content from a content storage device. In response, the mobile device determines a storable duration for content based upon available memory for storage of content. The storable duration

may be based upon storage requirements for available storage formats for the renderable content. There are many available storage formats for content and all are considered within the scope of the present subject matter. The mobile device requests a portion of the identified content based upon the determined storable duration from the content storage device using a content identifier for the content. The content storage device partitions the identified content into a segment (e.g., portion) of duration suitable for storage at the mobile device. The storage device sends the segment of content to the mobile device along with a content partition identifier associated with the segment. The mobile device stores the segment of content within the available memory and renders the segment of content via an output device associated with the mobile device.

It should be noted that the storage device may partition the content into multiple chapters, segments, or other groupings, based upon the received storable duration. Further, the mobile device may send the request for the portion of the content to the content storage device via any appropriate medium, such as infrared (IR) communication, radio frequency (RF) communication, or other approach.

The mobile device may render the content in response to receipt of a request via the input device to play the content. The mobile device may also time a duration of playback for the rendered content. In response to a request received via the input device to pause playback of the rendered content, the mobile device pauses playback and creates a playback pause identifier representative of the playback duration. The content may be resumed at a later time based upon the playback pause identifier.

Additionally, in response to a detecting a request via the input device to synchronize the playback of the content with a playback device, the mobile device sends the content identifier, the content partition identifier, and the playback pause identifier to the playback device. The playback device may include the original content storage device or may be another device. If the playback device is another device, it may retrieve the content from the content storage device or another storage device and resume playback of the content from the playback pause identifier in response to receipt of a request from the mobile device to resume playback of the content.

Alternatively, the mobile device may further determine a remaining portion of the stored segment of content based upon the duration of playback of the content. The mobile device may retrieve the remaining portion of the stored portion of the content from the memory and send the remaining portion of the content to the playback device. The playback device may resume playback of the content from the playback pause identifier in response to receipt of the remaining portion of the content and a request from the mobile device to resume playback of the content.

If the mobile device determines that playback of the content is completed, upon detecting a request to synchronize the playback of the content with the playback device, the mobile device may send the content identifier and the content partition identifier to the playback device with a request to resume playback at a location within the content subsequent to the received segment of the content. For example, where the content storage device partitioned the content into multiple chapters, segments, or other groupings, the content may be resumed at the beginning of the next chapter, segment, or grouping, as appropriate.

Where the content storage device creates multiple chapters, segments, or other groupings, the content storage device may send content partition identifiers for all segments created to the mobile device. As such, the mobile device may send a

request for an identified segment of content to the content storage device using a selected content partition identifier in association with the content identifier. As such, upon completion of playback for a received portion of content, the mobile device may request the next segment (e.g., chapter) of content suitable for storage and playback at the mobile device.

As such, the present subject matter provides flexibility in content rendering for a user of a mobile device. Accordingly, many variations on processing of segments of content by the mobile device are possible. Further, the mobile device may synchronize playback of renderable content with multiple devices, such as a television or other devices accessible via a network. The mobile device may communicate with and control the other devices for partitioning, retrieval, playback, and synchronization of content playback.

The renderable content partitioning and portability described herein may be performed in real time to allow prompt partitioning, retrieval, playback, and synchronization of content between multiple devices. For purposes of the present description, real time shall include any time frame of sufficiently short duration as to provide reasonable response time for information processing acceptable to a user of the subject matter described. Additionally, the term “real time” shall include what is commonly termed “near real time”—generally meaning any time frame of sufficiently short duration as to provide reasonable response time for on-demand information processing acceptable to a user of the subject matter described (e.g., within a portion of a second or within a few seconds). These terms, while difficult to precisely define are well understood by those skilled in the art.

FIG. 1 is a block diagram of an example of an implementation of a system **100** for renderable content partitioning and portability. A mobile device **102** communicates via a network **104** with a content storage device **106**, a content playback device **108**, and a content server **110**. The content storage device **106** and the content playback device **108** are illustrated enclosed within a dashed box to show that they may be the same device or may be multiple devices for any given implementation.

As will be described in more detail below in association with FIG. 2 through FIG. 5, the mobile device **102** provides automated control of renderable content partitioning and portability at the content storage device **106** and/or the content playback device **108**. The respective content storage device responds to requests from the mobile device **102** for content partitioning. The automated control of renderable content partitioning and portability is based upon a storable duration of content at the mobile device **102**, and may be based upon available memory associated with the mobile device **102**. The automated control of renderable content partitioning and portability provides flexibility of viewing content by allowing the mobile device **102** to request partitioning and downloading of segments of content for rendering either via the mobile device **102** or via other devices. Partition identifiers and pause identifiers are used in conjunction with the content identifiers to allow content to be retrieved from additional sources, such as the content server **110** and to preserve partitioning information previously requested of the content storage device **106** and/or the content playback device **108**.

It should be noted that the mobile device **102** may be a portable computing device, either by a user's ability to move the mobile device **102** to different locations, or by the mobile device **102**'s association with a portable platform, such as a plane, train, automobile, or other moving vehicle. It should also be noted that the mobile device **102** may be any computing device capable of processing information as described



above and in more detail below. For example, the mobile device **102** may include devices such as a personal computer (e.g., desktop, laptop, palm, etc.) or a handheld device (e.g., cellular telephone, personal digital assistant (PDA), email device, music recording or playback device, etc.), or any other device capable of processing information as described in more detail below.

The network **104** may include any form of interconnection suitable for the intended purpose, including a private or public network such as an intranet or the Internet, respectively, direct inter-module interconnection, dial-up, wireless, or any other interconnection mechanism capable of interconnecting the respective devices.

FIG. 2 is a block diagram of an example of an implementation of the mobile device **102** that is capable of performing automated control of renderable content partitioning and portability for content storage devices. It should be noted that the block diagram of the mobile device **102** is also applicable to a content storage device, such as the content storage device **106**, the content playback device **108**, and the content server **110**. As such, subject to distinctions in the actual processing performed by a content storage device, as described in more detail below, the description below of the mobile device **102** applies at least equally to a content storage device with respect to modules and architecture.

A central processing unit (CPU) **200** provides computer instruction execution, computation, and other capabilities within the mobile device **102**. A display **202** provides visual information to a user of the mobile device **102** and an input device **204** provides input capabilities for the user.

The display **202** may include any display device, such as a cathode ray tube (CRT), liquid crystal display (LCD), light emitting diode (LED), projection, touchscreen, or other display element or panel. The input device **204** may include a computer keyboard, a keypad, a mouse, a pen, a joystick, or any other type of input device by which the user may interact with and respond to information on the display **202**.

A communication module **206** provides interconnection capabilities that allow the mobile device **102** to communicate with other modules within the system **100**, such as the content storage device **106**, the content playback device **108**, and the content server **110**. The communication module **206** may include any electrical, protocol, and protocol conversion capabilities useable to provide the interconnection capabilities. The communication module **206** may also include infrared (IR) communication and/or radio frequency (RF) capabilities for communicating with other devices.

Though the communication module **206** is illustrated as a component-level module for ease of illustration and description purposes, it should be noted that the communication module **206** may include any hardware, programmed processor(s), and memory used to carry out the functions of the communication module **206** as described above and in more detail below. For example, the communication module **206** may include additional controller circuitry in the form of application specific integrated circuits (ASICs), processors, antennas, and/or discrete integrated circuits and components for performing communication and electrical control activities associated with the communication module **206**. Additionally, the communication module **206** may include interrupt-level, stack-level, and application-level modules as appropriate. Furthermore, the communication module **206** may include any memory components used for storage, execution, and data processing for performing processing activities associated with the communication module **206**.

The communication module **206** may also form a portion of other circuitry described without departure from the scope of the present subject matter.

A memory **208** includes a content information storage area **210** that stores information, such as content identifiers, content partition identifiers, playback pause identifiers, and other information associated with the mobile device **102**. As will be described in more detail below, information stored within the content information storage area **210** is used to provide the automated control of renderable content partitioning and portability of the mobile device **102**.

It is understood that the memory **208** may include any combination of volatile and non-volatile memory suitable for the intended purpose, distributed or localized as appropriate, and may include other memory segments not illustrated within the present example for ease of illustration purposes. For example, the memory **208** may include a code storage area, a code execution area, and a data area without departure from the scope of the present subject matter.

The mobile device **102** also includes a content processing module **212** and a timer module **214**. The content processing module **212** implements the automated control of renderable content partitioning and portability of the mobile device **102**. The timer module **214** provides timing capabilities for measuring and recording playback times, pause times, and other timing functions associated with the automated control of renderable content partitioning and portability of the mobile device **102**.

Though the content processing module **212** and the timer module **214** are illustrated as component-level modules for ease of illustration and description purposes, it should be noted that the content processing module **212** and the timer module **214** may include any hardware, programmed processor(s), and memory used to carry out the respective functions of these modules as described above and in more detail below. For example, the content processing module **212** and the timer module **214** may include additional controller circuitry in the form of application specific integrated circuits (ASICs), processors, and/or discrete integrated circuits and components for performing communication and electrical control activities associated with the respective devices. Additionally, the content processing module **212** and the timer module **214** may also include interrupt-level, stack-level, and application-level modules as appropriate. Furthermore, the content processing module **212** and the timer module **214** may include any memory components used for storage, execution, and data processing for performing processing activities associated with the respective modules.

It should also be noted that the content processing module **212** and the timer module **214** may form a portion of other circuitry described without departure from the scope of the present subject matter. Further, the content processing module **212** and the timer module **214** may alternatively be implemented as applications stored within the memory **208**. In such an implementation, the content processing module **212** and the timer module **214** may include instructions executed by the CPU **200** for performing the functionality described herein. The CPU **200** may execute these instructions to provide the processing capabilities described above and in more detail below for the mobile device **102**. The content processing module **212** and the timer module **214** may form a portion of an interrupt service routine (ISR), a portion of an operating system, a portion of a browser application, or a portion of a separate application without departure from the scope of the present subject matter.

A database **216** is associated with the mobile device **102** and provides storage capabilities for information associated

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with the automated control of renderable content partitioning and portability of the mobile device 102. The database 216 includes a content storage area 218 that may be stored in the form of tables or other arrangements accessible by the mobile device 102. The content storage area 218 includes storage for content segments received from any of the content storage device 106, the content playback device 108, and the content server 110.

The CPU 200, the display 202, the input device 204, the communication module 206, the memory 208, the content processing module 212, the timer module 214, and the database 216 are interconnected via an interconnection 220. The interconnection 220 may include a system bus, a network, or any other interconnection capable of providing the respective components with suitable interconnection for the respective purpose.

While the mobile device 102 is illustrated with and has certain components described, other modules and components may be associated with the mobile device 102 without departure from the scope of the present subject matter. Additionally, it should be noted that, while the mobile device 102 is described as a single device for ease of illustration purposes, the components within the mobile device 102 may be co-located or distributed and interconnected via a network without departure from the scope of the present subject matter. For a distributed arrangement, the display 202 and the input device 204 may be located at a point of sale device, kiosk, or other location, while the CPU 200 and memory 208 may be located at a local or remote server. Many other possible arrangements for components of the mobile device 102 are possible and all are considered within the scope of the present subject matter. It should also be understood that, though the content storage area 218 is shown within the database 216, it may also be stored within the memory 208 without departure from the scope of the present subject matter. Accordingly, the mobile device 102 may take many forms and may be associated with many platforms.

FIG. 3 through FIG. 5 below describe example processes that may be executed by devices, such as the mobile device 102, to perform the automated control of renderable content partitioning and portability associated with the present subject matter. Many other variations on the example processes are possible and all are considered within the scope of the present subject matter. The example processes may be performed by modules, such as the content processing module 212 and/or executed by the CPU 200, associated with such devices. It should be noted that time out procedures and other error control procedures are not illustrated within the example processes described below for ease of illustration purposes. However, it is understood that all such procedures are considered to be within the scope of the present subject matter.

FIG. 3 is a flow chart of an example of an implementation of a process 300 for automated control of renderable content partitioning and portability. At block 302, the process 300 determines, in response to detecting a request for a portion of renderable content via an input device, a storable duration of the renderable content based upon available memory for storage of renderable content associated with a mobile device. At block 304, the process 300 sends, to a renderable content storage device, the request for the portion of the renderable content based upon the storable duration, where the renderable content is identified by a content identifier. At block 306, the process 300 receives, at the mobile device, in response to the request, a content partition identifier and the portion of the renderable content having a duration less than or equal to the storable duration. At block 308, the process 300 stores the

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content identifier, the content partition identifier, and the portion of the renderable content within the available memory for storage of renderable content associated with the mobile device.

FIG. 4 is a flow chart of an example of an implementation of a process 400 for automated control of renderable content partitioning and portability based upon storage capabilities of a mobile device, such as the mobile device 102. At decision point 402, the process 400 waits for detection of a request via an input device, such as the input device 204, to retrieve a segment of renderable content from a content storage device, such as the content storage device 106. The request may be detected, for example, via receipt of a selection associated with the input device 204 of the mobile device 102 in response to display of an option to retrieve a segment of content displayed via the display 202.

Upon detection of a request to retrieve a segment of renderable content, at block 404 the process 400 determines a storable duration of renderable content based upon available memory, such as within the memory 208 or the content storage area 218 of the database 216, for storage of renderable content associated with a mobile device 102. At block 406, the process 400 sends, to a renderable content storage device, such as the content storage device 106, a request for a portion of a selected item of renderable content based upon the storable duration. The request may alternatively be sent to a renderable content server, such as the content server 110, or other device. The request for the selected item of renderable content is identified by a content identifier. The content identifier may be an alphanumeric value, such as a name of a movie, or other identifier as appropriate for the given implementation.

At decision 408, the process 400 waits to receive, in response to the request, a content partition identifier and a portion of the renderable content having a duration less than or equal to the storable duration at the mobile device 102. The mobile device 102 may receive the portion of the renderable content from a content storage device, such as the content storage device 106, or from a renderable content server, such as the content server 110 or other device, in response to sending the request for the portion of renderable content to the respective device.

At block 410, the process 400 stores the content identifier, the content partition identifier, and the portion of the renderable content within the available memory for storage of renderable content associated with the mobile device 102. At block 412, the process 400 displays the content partition identifier via a display device, such as the display 202, associated with the mobile device 102.

At decision point 412, the process 400 makes a determination as to whether a selection of the content partition identifier has been detected and received via the input device 204 associated with the mobile device 102. When a determination is made that a selection of the content partition identifier has been detected and received via the input device 204, the process 400 begins rendering the stored portion of the renderable content on the display 202 in response to the selection of the content partition identifier at block 416. At block 418, the process 400 starts a timer, such as the timer module 214, to continuously time a duration of playback for the stored portion of the renderable content.

It should be understood that, though the timer module 214 is described in association with the present example of use in determining a duration of playback, possibilities other than time-based measurement exist for monitoring a duration of playback for renderable content. For example, a remaining size of the stored portion of the renderable content may alter

natively be measured, and the remaining size may be determined based upon a storage format for the content. In such an implementation, playback pause identifiers may be created based upon stored content size/format and determinations for a remaining portion of content after a pause has been detected may be based upon size/format of the stored renderable content that has not been rendered at a time of such a determination. Other possibilities exist for creation of playback pause identifiers and for determining a duration of playback for renderable content, and all are considered within the scope of the present subject matter.

At decision point **420**, the process **400** makes a determination as to whether a request to pause playback of the renderable content has been detected via the input device **204**. When a determination is made that a request to pause playback of the renderable content has not been detected via the input device **204**, the process **400** makes a determination as to whether playback of the renderable content has been completed at decision point **422**. When a determination is made that playback of the renderable content has not been completed, the process **400** returns to decision point **420** and iterates as described above.

When a determination is made at decision point **420** that a request to pause playback of the renderable content is detected via the input device **204**, the process **400** pauses playback of the renderable content at block **424**. The process **400** makes a determination at decision point **426** as to whether a request to resume playback of the renderable content has been detected via the input device **204**. It is understood that the process **400** may wait for a configured period of time at decision point **426** to make this determination and that this processing is not shown within FIG. **4** for ease of illustration purposes.

When a determination is made at decision point **426** that a request to resume playback of the renderable content has been detected via the input device **204**, the process **400** resumes playback of the renderable content at block **428** and returns to decision point **420** to iterate as described above. When a determination is made at decision point **426** that a request to resume playback of the renderable content has not been detected via the input device **204**, the process **400** creates a playback pause identifier based upon the duration of playback of the renderable content at block **430**.

Returning to the description of decision point **422**, when a determination is made that playback of the renderable content has completed, or upon creation of the playback pause identifier at block **430**, the process **400** waits at decision point **432** for a request to be detected via the input device **204** to synchronize the playback of the renderable content with a content storage device, such as the content storage device **106** or the content playback device **108**.

When a determination is made at decision point **432** that a request to synchronize the playback of the renderable content with a content storage device has not been detected via the input device **204**, the process awaits another request to synchronize and iterates at decision point **432**. When a determination is made that a request to synchronize the playback of the renderable content with a content playback device has been detected via the input device **204**, the process **400** determines a remaining portion of the stored portion of the renderable content based upon the duration of playback of the renderable content at block **434**.

The process **400** may alternatively determine that playback of the renderable content is completed based upon the duration of playback for the renderable content at block **434**. In such a situation, the process **400** may alternatively return to block **406** to request a new portion of content from the respec-

tive content storage device or may bypass block **436** and block **438**, described below. These additional processing segments are not shown within the process **400** for ease of illustration purposes.

At block **436**, the process **400** retrieves any remaining portion of the stored portion of the renderable content from memory, such as the memory **208** or the database **216**. At block **438**, if there is any remaining portion of the renderable content that has not been rendered, the process **400** sends the remaining portion of the stored portion of the renderable content to the content playback device. At block **440**, the process **400** sends the content identifier, the content partition identifier, and the playback pause identifier to the content playback device. At block **442**, the process **400** sends a request to the content playback device to resume playback of the renderable content at the content playback device beginning from the playback pause identifier. It is noted that the playback pause identifier may also indicate a position within the renderable content representing that playback of the stored portion of the renderable content has been completed. This additional processing is not shown within FIG. **4** for ease of illustration purposes. As such, processing at block **442** may include sending a request to resume playback at a location within the renderable content subsequent to the received portion of the renderable content. The process **400** returns to decision point **402** to await detection of a new request to retrieve an item of renderable content.

As such, the process **400** provides for request and retrieval of portions of renderable content from content storage devices based upon available storage at a mobile device, provides playback and pause capabilities for the retrieved portions of renderable content, and provides synchronization capabilities to resume playback of the content at a content rendering device. Many other variations on the processing described are possible and all are considered within the scope of the present subject matter.

It is understood that complementary processing may be performed at a content storage and/or content rendering device to interact with the process **400** described above. Such processing includes receiving requests to partition renderable content into chapters or segments. The partitioned content may be sent to a mobile device for storage and playback. The content storage and/or content rendering device may also receive a request to synchronize playback of the renderable content from a point at which playback has been paused or completed via the mobile device. The respective device may receive a remainder of the renderable content from the mobile device and resume playback of the remainder or may resume playback from a location subsequent to the portion (e.g., segment or chapter) that was sent to the mobile device. Many other variations on the processing associated with a content storage and/or content rendering device are possible and all are considered within the scope of the present subject matter. FIG. **5** described below represents one such example complementary process.

FIG. **5** is a flow chart of an example of an implementation of a process **500** for automated renderable content partitioning and portability at a content storage device, such as the content storage device **106**, the content playback device **108**, or the content server **110**. At decision point **502**, the process **500** waits for detection of a request for a portion of a selected item (e.g., segment) of renderable content based upon the storable duration associated with a mobile device, such as the mobile device **102**. The request for the selected item of renderable content is identified by a content identifier. As discussed above in FIG. **4**, the content identifier may be an alphanumeric value, such as a name of a movie, or other

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identifier as appropriate for the given implementation. The request may be detected, for example, via receipt of a selection associated with the input device **204** of the mobile device **102**, or via other communication appropriate for the given implementation.

Upon detection of the request for a segment of renderable content, at block **504** the process **500** identifies the content identifier (ID) and storable duration associated with the request. At block **506**, the process **500** retrieves the identified renderable content from either local or remote storage (not shown). At block **508**, the process **500** partitions the renderable content into segments (e.g., chapters) based upon the storable duration associated with the mobile device **102**. At block **510**, the process **500** generates content partition identifiers (IDs) for each partitioned segment. At block **512**, the process **500** sends the content partition identifiers and a first portion of the renderable content having a duration less than or equal to the storable duration to the mobile device **102**.

At decision point **514**, the process **500** waits to detect a request, for example, via the input device **204** associated with the mobile device **102**, to synchronize playback of the renderable content. Upon detection of a request to synchronize playback of the renderable content with the mobile device **102**, the process **500** identifies the content ID and the content partition ID from the request at block **516**. At block **518**, the process **500** retrieves the identified content and locates the identified partition.

At decision point **520**, the process **500** determines whether the playback synchronization request from the mobile device **102** includes a playback pause identifier (ID). When a determination is made that the playback synchronization request includes a playback pause ID, the process **500** resumes playback of the renderable content from a location within the renderable content represented by the playback pause ID at block **522**. When a determination is made at decision point **520** that a playback pause ID is not associated with playback synchronization request from the mobile device **102**, the process **500** locates the next segment of renderable content at block **524**. At block **526**, the process **500** resumes playback from the beginning of the next segment of renderable content.

Upon resuming playback of the renderable content based upon a playback pause ID at block **522** or upon resuming playback from the beginning of the next segment of renderable content at block **526**, the process **500** makes a determination at decision point **528** as to whether playback is complete, such as via detection of a playback pause or stop request via the input device **204**, or upon completion of playback of the renderable content. Playback of the renderable content may continue until a determination is made that playback is completed. Upon making the determination that playback is completed, the process **500** returns to decision point **502** to await another detection of a request for a portion of a selected item of renderable content.

As described above in association with FIG. **1** through FIG. **5**, the example systems and processes provide automated control of renderable content partitioning and portability via a mobile device. Many other variations and additional activities associated with automated control of renderable content partitioning and portability are possible and all are considered within the scope of the present subject matter.

Those skilled in the art will recognize, upon consideration of the above teachings, that certain of the above examples are based upon use of a programmed processor, such as the CPU **200**. However, the invention is not limited to such example embodiments, since other embodiments could be implemented using hardware component equivalents such as special purpose hardware and/or dedicated processors. Similarly,

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general purpose computers, microprocessor based computers, micro-controllers, optical computers, analog computers, dedicated processors, application specific circuits and/or dedicated hard wired logic may be used to construct alternative equivalent embodiments.

As will be appreciated by one skilled in the art, aspects of the present invention may be embodied as a system, method or computer program product. Accordingly, aspects of the present invention may take the form of an entirely hardware embodiment, an entirely software embodiment (including firmware, resident software, micro-code, etc.) or an embodiment combining software and hardware aspects that may all generally be referred to herein as a "circuit," "module" or "system." Furthermore, aspects of the present invention may take the form of a computer program product embodied in one or more computer readable medium(s) having computer readable program code embodied thereon.

Any combination of one or more computer readable medium(s) may be utilized. The computer readable medium may be a computer readable signal medium or a computer readable storage medium. A computer readable storage medium may be, for example, but not limited to, an electronic, magnetic, optical, electromagnetic, infrared, or semiconductor system, apparatus, or device, or any suitable combination of the foregoing. More specific examples (a non-exhaustive list) of the computer readable storage medium would include the following: an electrical connection having one or more wires, a portable computer diskette, a hard disk, a random access memory (RAM), a read-only memory (ROM), an erasable programmable read-only memory (EPROM or Flash memory), a portable compact disc read-only memory (CD-ROM), an optical storage device, a magnetic storage device, or any suitable combination of the foregoing. In the context of this document, a computer readable storage medium may be any tangible medium that can contain, or store a program for use by or in connection with an instruction execution system, apparatus, or device.

A computer readable signal medium may include a propagated data signal with computer readable program code embodied therein, for example, in baseband or as part of a carrier wave. Such a propagated signal may take any of a variety of forms, including, but not limited to, electromagnetic, optical, or any suitable combination thereof. A computer readable signal medium may be any computer readable medium that is not a computer readable storage medium and that can communicate, propagate, or transport a program for use by or in connection with an instruction execution system, apparatus, or device.

Program code embodied on a computer readable medium may be transmitted using any appropriate medium, including but not limited to wireless, wireline, optical fiber cable, RF, etc., or any suitable combination of the foregoing.

Computer program code for carrying out operations for aspects of the present invention may be written in any combination of one or more programming languages, including an object oriented programming language such as Java, Smalltalk, C++ or the like and conventional procedural programming languages, such as the "C" programming language or similar programming languages. The program code may execute entirely on the user's computer, partly on the user's computer, as a stand-alone software package, partly on the user's computer and partly on a remote computer or entirely on the remote computer or server. In the latter scenario, the remote computer may be connected to the user's computer through any type of network, including a local area network (LAN) or a wide area network (WAN), or the connection may

be made to an external computer (for example, through the Internet using an Internet Service Provider).

Aspects of the present invention are described below with reference to flowchart illustrations and/or block diagrams of methods, apparatus (systems) and computer program products according to embodiments of the invention. It will be understood that each block of the flowchart illustrations and/or block diagrams, and combinations of blocks in the flowchart illustrations and/or block diagrams, can be implemented by computer program instructions. These computer program instructions may be provided to a processor of a general purpose computer, special purpose computer, or other programmable data processing apparatus to produce a machine, such that the instructions, which execute via the processor of the computer or other programmable data processing apparatus, create means for implementing the functions/acts specified in the flowchart and/or block diagram block or blocks.

These computer program instructions may also be stored in a computer-readable medium that can direct a computer or other programmable data processing apparatus to function in a particular manner, such that the instructions stored in the computer-readable medium produce an article of manufacture including instruction means which implement the function/act specified in the flowchart and/or block diagram block or blocks.

The computer program instructions may also be loaded onto a computer, other programmable data processing apparatus, or other devices to cause a series of operational steps to be performed on the computer, other programmable apparatus or other devices to produce a computer implemented process such that the instructions which execute on the computer or other programmable apparatus provide processes for implementing the functions/acts specified in the flowchart and/or block diagram block or blocks.

The flowchart and block diagrams in the Figures illustrate the architecture, functionality, and operation of possible implementations of systems, methods and computer program products according to various embodiments of the present invention. In this regard, each block in the flowchart or block diagrams may represent a module, segment, or portion of code, which comprises one or more executable instructions for implementing the specified logical function(s). It should also be noted that, in some alternative implementations, the functions noted in the block may occur out of the order noted in the figures. For example, two blocks shown in succession may, in fact, be executed substantially concurrently, or the blocks may sometimes be executed in the reverse order, depending upon the functionality involved. It will also be noted that each block of the block diagrams and/or flowchart illustration, and combinations of blocks in the block diagrams and/or flowchart illustration, can be implemented by special purpose hardware-based systems that perform the specified functions or acts, or combinations of special purpose hardware and computer instructions.

A data processing system suitable for storing and/or executing program code will include at least one processor coupled directly or indirectly to memory elements through a system bus. The memory elements can include local memory employed during actual execution of the program code, bulk storage, and cache memories which provide temporary storage of at least some program code in order to reduce the number of times code must be retrieved from bulk storage during execution.

Input/output or I/O devices (including but not limited to keyboards, displays, pointing devices, etc.) can be coupled to the system either directly or through intervening I/O controllers.

Network adapters may also be coupled to the system to enable the data processing system to become coupled to other data processing systems or remote printers or storage devices through intervening private or public networks. Modems, cable modems and Ethernet cards are just a few of the currently available types of network adapters.

The terminology used herein is for the purpose of describing particular embodiments only and is not intended to be limiting of the invention. As used herein, the singular forms “a”, “an” and “the” are intended to include the plural forms as well, unless the context clearly indicates otherwise. It will be further understood that the terms “comprises” and/or “comprising,” when used in this specification, specify the presence of stated features, integers, steps, operations, elements, and/or components, but do not preclude the presence or addition of one or more other features, integers, steps, operations, elements, components, and/or groups thereof.

The corresponding structures, materials, acts, and equivalents of all means or step plus function elements in the claims below are intended to include any structure, material, or act for performing the function in combination with other claimed elements as specifically claimed. The description of the present invention has been presented for purposes of illustration and description, but is not intended to be exhaustive or limited to the invention in the form disclosed. Many modifications and variations will be apparent to those of ordinary skill in the art without departing from the scope and spirit of the invention. The embodiment was chosen and described in order to best explain the principles of the invention and the practical application, and to enable others of ordinary skill in the art to understand the invention for various embodiments with various modifications as are suited to the particular use contemplated.

What is claimed is:

1. A method, comprising:

controlling, via a mobile device, content partitioning at a separate renderable content storage device of an item of renderable content into a plurality of partitioned content segments that are each less in size than the entire item of renderable content and that each fit within available memory of the mobile device;

rendering, on a display device of the mobile device as received from the separate renderable content storage device, a plurality of content partition identifiers that each identify one partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item of renderable content;

retrieving, from the separate renderable content storage device, a first partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item of renderable content identified by a user-selected first content partition identifier;

rendering, at the mobile device, the first partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item of renderable content retrieved from the separate renderable content storage device using the user-selected first content partition identifier;

automatically retrieving, via the mobile device in response to completion of rendering of the first partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments, a second partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item of

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renderable content identified using a second content partition identifier of the received plurality of content partition identifiers;

rendering the second partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item of renderable content at the mobile device;

detecting a request via an input device to pause playback of the second partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item of renderable content at the mobile device;

pausing the playback of the second partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item of renderable content at the mobile device in response to the request;

creating a playback pause identifier based upon a duration of playback of the second partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item of renderable content;

detecting a request via the input device to synchronize the playback of the second partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item of renderable content with a content playback device;

sending an identifier that identifies the item of renderable content, the second content partition identifier of the received plurality of content partition identifiers that identifies the second partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item of renderable content that was paused, and the playback pause identifier to the content playback device;

controlling, via the mobile device, the content playback device to begin rendering the second partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item of renderable content at a point at which the second partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item of renderable content was paused on the mobile device;

determining a remaining portion of the second partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item of renderable content based upon the duration of playback of the second partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item of renderable content;

retrieving the remaining portion of the second partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item of renderable content; and

sending the remaining portion of the second partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item of renderable content to the content playback device.

2. The method of claim 1, further comprising:

determining that playback of the second partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item of renderable content is completed based upon the duration of playback for the second partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item of renderable content; and

controlling, via the mobile device, the content playback device to begin rendering a third partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item of renderable content identified using a third content partition identifier of the received plurality of content partition identifiers.

3. The method of claim 1, where retrieving, from the separate renderable content storage device, the first partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item of renderable content identified by the

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user-selected first content partition identifier comprises receiving the first partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item of renderable content from the separate renderable content storage device in response to sending a request for the first partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item of renderable content comprising a content identifier of the item of renderable content and the first content partition identifier to the separate renderable content storage device.

4. A system operative at a mobile device, comprising:

a memory;

a display device;

an input device; and

a processor programmed to:

control, via the mobile device, content partitioning at a separate renderable content storage device of an item of renderable content into a plurality of partitioned content segments that are each less in size than the entire item of renderable content and that each fit within available memory within the memory of the mobile device;

render, on the display device of the mobile device as received from the separate renderable content storage device, a plurality of content partition identifiers that each identify one partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item of renderable content;

retrieve, from the separate renderable content storage device, a first partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item of renderable content identified by a user-selected first content partition identifier;

render, at the mobile device the first partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item of renderable content retrieved from the separate renderable content storage device using the user-selected first content partition identifier;

automatically retrieve, via the mobile device in response to completion of rendering of the first partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments, a second partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item of renderable content identified using a second content partition identifier of the received plurality of content partition identifiers;

render the second partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item of renderable content at the mobile device;

detect a request via the input device to pause playback of the second partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item of renderable content at the mobile device;

pause the playback of the second partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item of renderable content at the mobile device in response to the request;

create a playback pause identifier based upon a duration of playback of the second partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item of renderable content;

detect a request via the input device to synchronize the playback of the second partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item renderable content with a content playback device;

send an identifier that identifies the item of renderable content, the second content partition identifier of the

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received plurality of content partition identifiers that identifies the second partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item of renderable content that was paused, and the playback pause identifier to the content playback device;

control, via the mobile device, the content playback device to begin rendering the second partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item of renderable content at a point at which the second partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item of renderable content was paused on the mobile device;

determine a remaining portion of the second partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item of renderable content based upon the duration of playback of the second partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item of renderable content;

retrieve the remaining portion of the second partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item of renderable content; and

send the remaining portion of the second partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item of renderable content to the content playback device.

5. The system of claim 4,

where the processor is further programmed to:

determine that playback of the second partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item of renderable content is completed based upon the duration of playback for the second partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item of renderable content; and

control, via the mobile device, the content playback device to begin rendering a third partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item of renderable content identified using a third content partition identifier of the received plurality of content partition identifiers.

6. A computer program product comprising a non-transitory computer readable storage medium including a computer readable program code, where the computer readable program code when executed on a computer causes the computer to:

control, via a mobile device, content partitioning at a separate renderable content storage device of an item of renderable content into a plurality of partitioned content segments that are each less in size than the entire item of renderable content and that each fit within available memory of the mobile device;

render, on a display device of the mobile device as received from the separate renderable content storage device, a plurality of content partition identifiers that each identify one partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item of renderable content;

retrieve, from the separate renderable content storage device, a first partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item of renderable content identified by a user-selected first content partition identifier;

render, at the mobile device, the first partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item of renderable content retrieved from the

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separate renderable content storage device using the user-selected first content partition identifier;

automatically retrieve, via the mobile device in response to completion of rendering of the first partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments, a second partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item of renderable content identified using a second content partition identifier of the received plurality of content partition identifiers;

render the second partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item of renderable content at the mobile device;

detect a request via an input device to pause playback of the second partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item of renderable content at the mobile device;

pause the playback of the second partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item of renderable content at the mobile device in response to the request;

create a playback pause identifier based upon a duration of playback of the second partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item of renderable content;

detect a request via the input device to synchronize the playback of the second partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item of renderable content with a content playback device;

send an identifier that identifies the item of renderable content, the second content partition identifier of the received plurality of content partition identifiers that identifies the second partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item of renderable content that was paused, and the playback pause identifier to the content playback device;

control, via the mobile device, the content playback device to begin rendering the second partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item of renderable content at a point at which the second partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item of renderable content was paused on the mobile device;

determine a remaining portion of the second partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item of renderable content based upon the duration of playback of the second partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item of renderable content;

retrieve the remaining portion of the second partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item of renderable content; and

send the remaining portion of the second partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item of renderable content to the content playback device.

7. The computer program product of claim 6, where the computer readable program code when executed on the computer further causes the computer to:

determine that playback of the second partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item of renderable content is completed based upon the duration of playback for the second partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item of renderable content; and

control, via the mobile device, the content playback device to begin rendering a third partitioned content segment of

the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item of renderable content identified using a third content partition identifier of the received plurality of content partition identifiers.

8. The computer program product of claim 6, where in 5  
causing the computer to retrieve, from the separate renderable  
content storage device, the first partitioned content segment  
of the plurality of partitioned content segments of the item of  
renderable content identified by the user-selected first content  
partition identifier, the computer readable program code 10  
when executed on the computer causes the computer to  
receive the first partitioned content segment of the plurality of  
partitioned content segments of the item of renderable content  
from the separate renderable content storage device in  
response to causing the computer to send a request for the first 15  
partitioned content segment of the plurality of partitioned  
content segments of the item of renderable content comprising  
a content identifier of the item of renderable content and  
the first content partition identifier to the separate renderable  
content storage device. 20

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